



WHY WATER IS ONE OF THE WEIRDEST THINGS IN THE UNIVERSE

Science journalist Alok Jha investigates why water is so incredibly weird. Prepare to have your mind blown (in a good way) with this fascinating short animated film.

Every molecule of water on the earth and in every living thing has existed for billions of years. All the water on earth is alien and it doesn't follow the normal rules of chemistry. ■

Source: <https://www.bbc.com/reel/playlist/our-unique-world?vpid=p06y2c9n>



BIG OR SMALL - PONDS FOR ALL

For this year's Wild About Gardens challenge, The Wildlife Trusts and the Royal Horticultural Society (RHS) are calling on people to put in a pond. From mini container ponds to larger sunken ponds, it's THE garden feature that can make the biggest difference to wildlife.

With much of the UK's native flora and fauna under threat, often down to habitat loss, Wild About Gardens sees the two charities join forces to raise awareness of the importance of gardens in supporting wildlife and offer tips and advice on how to make them more wildlife-friendly. You can find a full range of booklets, advice and inspiration on the Wild About Gardens website. ■

Source: <https://www.wildlifetrusts.org/news/big-or-small-ponds-all>

SIDE BY SIDE: OLD AND NEW MAPS

A nice little resource hidden away on the National Library for Scotland website where you can select and compare different georeferenced maps to each other, to modern maps or satellite layers, using a split-screen viewer ■

Source: <http://bit.ly/Side-by-side-maps>

Photo: from the website



OUTDOOR CLASSROOM DAY 2019

A global campaign to celebrate and inspire outdoor learning and play. The next date is the 23rd May 2019. Outdoor learning improves children's health, engages them with learning and leads to a greater connection with nature. Play not only teaches critical life skills such as resilience, teamwork and creativity, but is central to children's enjoyment of childhood. If you work for an organisation that cares about children, nature, education or the environment, speak to us about how you can get involved. We're always looking for partners to help spread the message far and wide. You can sign up and get involved through the excellent website.

<https://outdoorclassroomday.org.uk/> ■

- In the media
- Sector news
- Resources
- Research

BENEFITS INCLUDE

1

BETTER
SOCIAL SKILLS

2

ENHANCED
PROBLEM SOLVING

3

TEAM WORKING
SKILLS

4

SERIOUSLY
FUN!!



MAKING THE MOST OF OUR MOORLANDS

Get a moorland knowledge boost by checking out these free resources:

Visit the North Pennines website for a downloadable identification guide to flowers, grasses, shrubs, mosses and lichens:

<http://bit.ly/NorthPennine-MoorlandGuide>

Explore plant and animal life with Moors for the Future, plus get advice on how to reduce risk of wildfire:

<http://www.moorsforthefuture.org.uk/enjoy-the-moors> ■

Photo: with CC License on Flickr



JOHN MUIR TRUST FILMS EXPLORE YOUNG PEOPLE'S CONNECTIONS WITH THE OUTDOORS

This series of 2-minute films includes an initial film showcasing a variety of young people's voices – and the places, connections and ideas that matter to them. Find out more... <https://www.johnmuirtrust.org/latest/news/1648> ■



SURVEY FINDS 99 PER CENT OF WOMEN SAY OUTDOOR ADVENTURE AIDS MENTAL WELLBEING

The results of a major survey released to mark International Women's Day demonstrate the benefits of outdoor activities on women's mental wellbeing. It received 2,700 responses to the project, with almost 95 per cent agreeing strongly that being active in the outdoors was good for their mental health.

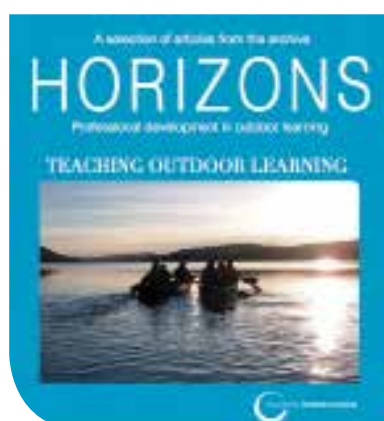
Women in Adventure is an independent research-based project focused on empowering women through the sharing of information, inspiration and advice. ■

Source: <https://vimeo.com/womeninadventure>

HELPING TEACHERS DELIVER OUTDOOR LEARNING IN THE CURRICULUM

The Institute has a range of free resources to support Teachers in bringing Outdoor Learning into their curriculum. Aimed at teachers and also with selected sets of Horizons archive articles. ■

Source: <https://www.outdoor-learning.org/Good-Practice/Develop-your-Organisation/Outdoor-Learning-in-Schools/Teaching-Outdoors>



ASH DIEBACK:

an Action Plan Toolkit
First published February 2019



TREE COUNCIL LAUNCHES PLAN TO TACKLE ASH DIEBACK

The Tree Council has developed a four-point plan to help local authorities fight ash dieback, the most significant tree disease to hit the UK since the 1970s. The plan, to be circulated as an easy-to-use "toolkit", is designed to:

- Raise awareness of the disease
- Help councils create local action plans
- Identify best practice for managing non-woodland trees
- Advise on recovery and creation of alternative treescapes ■

Find out more here: <https://bit.ly/2NW05n6>